

## **CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

1-250 (cancelled)

251 (withdrawn). A combination fastener as defined in claim 179, wherein the fastener further comprises  
a left section connected to the bottom section and comprising a left snapping segment; and  
a right section also connected to the bottom section and comprising a right snapping segment.

252 (withdrawn). A combination fastener as defined in claim 251, wherein the fastener further comprises a top section having a top engageable continuous hole, wherein the top section is also connected to the left section and to the right section.

253 (withdrawn). A combination fastener as defined in claim 251, wherein the fastener further comprises  
an upper free-ended top section having an upper top engageable continuous hole; and  
a lower free-ended top section having a lower top engageable continuous hole;  
wherein the upper free-ended top section is connected to one of the left and the right side sections and the lower free-ended top section is connected to the remaining of the left and the right side sections.

254 (withdrawn). A combination fastener as defined in claim 251, wherein at least one of the left and right snapping segments comprises an element selected from an anti-opening portion, an anti-sliding portion and a combination thereof.

255 (withdrawn). A combination fastener as defined in claim 252, wherein at least one of the left and right snapping segments comprise an element

selected from an anti-opening portion, an anti-sliding portion and a combination thereof.

256 (withdrawn). A vehicle as defined in claim 185, wherein the fastener further comprises

a left section connected to the bottom section and comprising a left snapping segment; and

a right section also connected to the bottom section and comprising a right snapping segment.

257 (withdrawn). A vehicle as defined in claim 256, wherein the fastener further comprises a top section having a top engageable continuous hole, wherein the top section is also connected to the left section and to the right section.

258 (withdrawn). A vehicle as defined in claim 256, wherein the fastener further comprises

an upper free-ended top section having an upper top engageable continuous hole; and

a lower free-ended top section having a lower top engageable continuous hole;

wherein the upper free-ended top section is connected to one of the left and the right side sections and the lower free-ended top section is connected to the remaining of the left and the right side sections.

259 (withdrawn). A vehicle as defined in claim 256, wherein at least one of the left and right snapping segments of the fastener comprise an element selected from an anti-opening portion, an anti-sliding portion and a combination thereof.

260 (withdrawn). A vehicle as defined in claim 257, wherein at least one of the left and right snapping segments of the fastener comprise an element selected from an anti-opening portion, an anti-sliding portion and a combination thereof.

261 (withdrawn). A vehicle as defined in claim 258, wherein at least one of the left and right snapping segments of the fastener comprise an element selected from an anti-opening portion, an anti-sliding portion and a combination thereof.

262 (withdrawn). A combination fastener as defined in claim 179, wherein the fastener further comprises

an upper free-ended top section having an upper top engageable continuous hole;

a lower free-ended top section having a lower top engageable continuous hole;

a left section and a right section, the top sections and the bottom section being connected by the left section and the right section; and

a front snapping segment and a back snapping segment, wherein at least one of said segments is connected to at least one of the upper free-ended top section and the lower free-ended top section, substantially between the planes of left section and the right section.

263 (withdrawn). A combination fastener as defined in claim 262, wherein both the front and the back snapping segments are connected to the lower free-ended top section.

264 (withdrawn). A combination fastener as defined in claim 263, wherein the upper free-ended top section provides support to the lower free-ended top section.

265 (withdrawn). A combination fastener as defined in claim 262, wherein at least one of the snapping segments comprises a portion selected from anti-opening portion, anti-sliding portion, and a combination thereof.

266 (withdrawn). A combination fastener as defined in claim 263, wherein at least one of the snapping segments comprises a portion selected from anti-opening portion, anti-sliding portion, and a combination thereof.

267 (withdrawn). A combination fastener as defined in claim 264, wherein at least one of the snapping segments comprises a portion selected from anti-opening portion, anti-sliding portion, and a combination thereof.

268 (withdrawn). A vehicle as defined in claim 185, wherein the fastener further comprises

an upper free-ended top section having an upper top engageable continuous hole;

a lower free-ended top section having a lower top engageable continuous hole;

a left section and a right section, the top sections and the bottom section being connected by the left section and the right section; and

a front snapping segment and a back snapping segment, wherein at least one of said segments is connected to at least one of the upper free-ended top section and the lower free-ended top section, substantially between the planes of left section and the right section.

269 (withdrawn) A vehicle as defined in claim 268, wherein both the front and the back snapping segments are connected to the lower free-ended top section.

270 (withdrawn) A vehicle as defined in claim 269, wherein the upper free-ended top section provides support to the lower free-ended top section.

271 (withdrawn) A vehicle as defined in claim 268, wherein at least one of the snapping segments comprises a portion selected from anti-opening portion, anti-sliding portion, and a combination thereof.

272 (withdrawn) A vehicle as defined in claim 269, wherein at least one of the snapping segments comprises a portion selected from anti-opening portion, anti-sliding portion, and a combination thereof.

273 (withdrawn) A vehicle as defined in claim 270, wherein at least one of the snapping segments comprises a portion selected from anti-opening portion, anti-sliding portion, and a combination thereof.

274 (withdrawn). A combination fastener as defined in claim 179, wherein the fastener further comprises:

a top section having a top engageable continuous hole;

a bottom section having a bottom engageable continuous hole;

at least one side section, the top section and the bottom section being connected by the at least one side section; and

a front snapping segment and a back snapping segment, the snapping segments connected to the top section.

275 (withdrawn). A fastener as defined in claim 274, wherein at least one of the snapping segments comprises a portion selected from anti-opening portion, anti-sliding portion, and a combination thereof.

276 (withdrawn). A vehicle as defined in claim 185, wherein the fastener further comprises:

a top section having a top engageable continuous hole;

a bottom section having a bottom engageable continuous hole;

at least one side section, the top section and the bottom section being connected by the at least one side section; and

a front snapping segment and a back snapping segment, the snapping segments connected to the top section.

277 (withdrawn). A vehicle as defined in claim 276, wherein at least one of the snapping segments comprises a portion selected from anti-opening portion, anti-sliding portion, and a combination thereof.

278 (previously presented). A combination fastener comprising:

a fastener, the fastener comprising

an upper free-ended top section having an upper top engageable continuous hole;

a lower free-ended top section having a lower top engageable continuous hole;

a bottom section having a bottom engageable continuous hole, the bottom engageable continuous hole having a helical periphery;

a left section and a right section;

the top sections and the bottom section being connected by the left section and the right section, the left section comprising a left snapping segment, and the right section comprising a right snapping segment, wherein the upper top engageable hole, the lower top engageable hole, and the bottom engageable hole are located in positions allowing coexisting engagement by a screw or bolt; and

a screw, the screw comprising

a core, the core having a core surface, and

a pitch, the pitch being commensurate to the helical periphery of the bottom engageable continuous hole,

wherein substantially the entirety of the helical periphery of the bottom engageable continuous hole substantially contacts the core surface, when the screw is engaged to the fastener.

279 (previously presented). A combination fastener as defined in claim 278, wherein at least one of the snapping segments comprises a portion selected from an anti-opening portion, an anti-sliding portion, and a combination thereof.

280 (previously presented). A combination fastener as defined in claim 278, wherein the upper free-ended top section and the lower free-ended top section have smaller dimensions than the bottom section.

281 (previously presented). A combination fastener as defined in claim 279, wherein the upper free-ended top section and the lower free-ended top section have smaller dimensions than the bottom section.

282 (previously presented). A combination fastener as defined in claim 280, wherein the upper free-ended top section and the lower free-ended top section are just wide enough to accept the upper top engageable continuous hole, and the lower top engageable continuous hole, respectively.

283 (previously presented). A combination fastener as defined in claim 281, wherein the upper free-ended top section and the lower free-ended top section are just wide enough to accept the upper top engageable continuous hole, and the lower top engageable continuous hole, respectively.

284 (currently amended). A combination fastener as defined in claim 278, wherein at least two of the upper top engageable continuous hole, the lower top engageable continuous hole, and the bottom engageable continuous hole are in a condition selected from deviating from being commensurate, being misaligned, and a combination thereof, in a manner to improve prevailing torque.

285 (previously presented). A vehicle comprising parts connected with a combination fastener, the combination fastener comprising:

a fastener, the fastener comprising

an upper free-ended top section having an upper top engageable continuous hole;

a lower free-ended top section having a lower top engageable continuous hole;



a bottom section having a bottom engageable continuous hole,  
the bottom engageable continuous hole having a helical  
periphery;

a left section and a right section;

the top sections and the bottom section being connected by the  
left section and the right section, the left section comprising a  
left snapping segment, and the right section comprising a right  
snapping segment, wherein the upper top engageable hole, the  
lower top engageable hole, and the bottom engageable hole are  
located in positions allowing coexisting engagement by a screw  
or bolt; and

a screw, the screw comprising

a core, the core having a core surface, and

a pitch, the pitch being commensurate to the helical periphery of  
the bottom engageable continuous hole,

wherein substantially the entirety of the helical periphery of the bottom  
engageable continuous hole substantially contacts the core surface, when the screw is  
engaged to the fastener.

286 (previously presented). A vehicle as defined in claim 285,  
wherein at least one of the snapping segments of the combination fastener comprises a  
portion selected from an anti-opening portion, an anti-sliding portion, and a  
combination thereof.

287 (previously presented). A vehicle as defined in claim 285, wherein the upper free-ended top section and the lower free-ended top section of the combination fastener have smaller dimensions than the bottom section.

288 (previously presented). A vehicle as defined in claim 286, wherein the upper free-ended top section and the lower free-ended top section of the combination fastener have smaller dimensions than the bottom section.

289 (previously presented). A vehicle as defined in claim 287, wherein the upper free-ended top section and the lower free-ended top section of the combination fastener are just wide enough to accept the upper top engageable continuous hole, and the lower top engageable continuous hole, respectively.

290 (previously presented). A vehicle as defined in claim 288, wherein the upper free-ended top section and the lower free-ended top section of the combination fastener are just wide enough to accept the upper top engageable continuous hole, and the lower top engageable continuous hole, respectively.

291 (currently amended). A vehicle fastener as defined in claim 285, wherein at least two of the upper top engageable continuous hole, the lower top engageable continuous hole, and the bottom engageable continuous hole of the combination fastener are in a condition selected from deviating from being commensurate, being misaligned, and a combination thereof, in a manner to improve prevailing torque.